



American College
of Physicians

American Society
of Internal Medicine

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Dear Colleague:

I am writing to urge your participation in the National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS). The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) has invested many years in developing this unique study which has emerged as a sound and valuable mechanism for collecting national data on office-based ambulatory practice.

The continued support of the members of the American College of Physicians-American Society of Internal Medicine is indispensable in the continuation of this research program. There is considerable interest in gaining the information to be produced - new basic data that can prove to be an original, invaluable resource for planning and organizing health services, assessing health facilities and manpower requirements, for determining desirable modifications in medical education programs, and for providing increased knowledge reflecting the natural history and epidemiology of disease in the ambulatory setting.

Along with other medical organizations, we have been involved in final approval of the NAMCS forms and procedures. I believe you will find the survey design diminishes the amount of record keeping and time involved and increases utility of the data collected. Strict confidentiality will be maintained, with only summary data to be published and made available to the medical profession, to health planners and researchers, and to the public.

We have been partners with NCHS in this project since 1973. The information derived has been well worth the individual effort expended by participating physicians like yourself. We look forward to your continued support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Walter J. McDonald, MD, FACP'.
Walter J. McDonald, MD, FACP